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Beyond the Capital

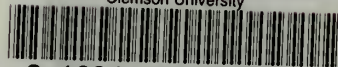
National Park Service
Department of the Interior



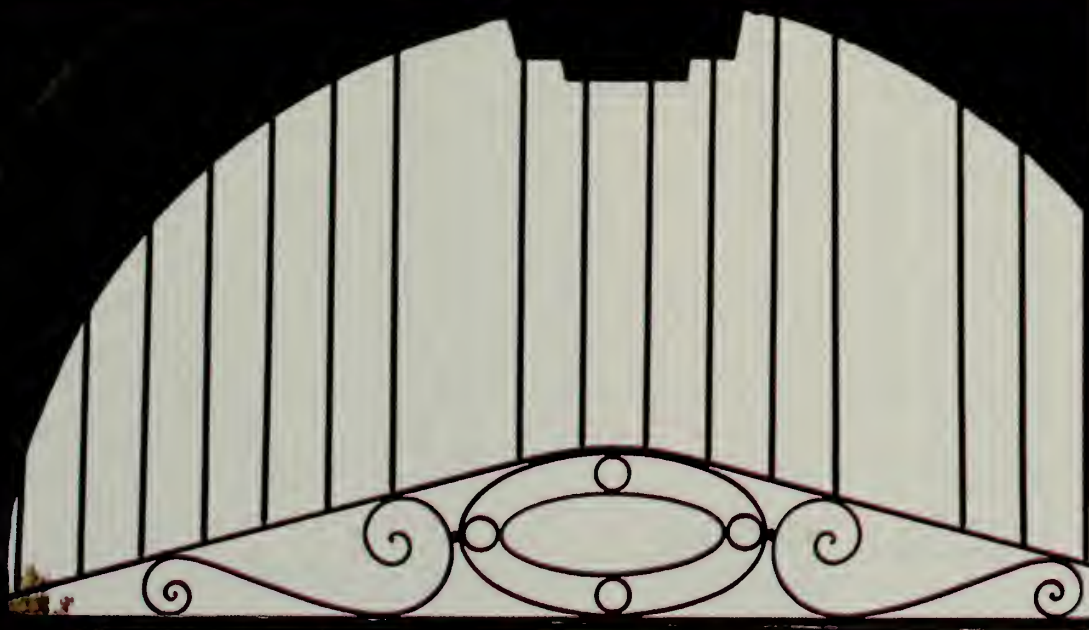
A Visitor's Guide to National Capital Parks-East

Fall 2005

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Message From the Superintendent

Dear Visitor:

I extend an invitation to visit our parks at National Capital Parks-East during the beautiful Fall season. We offer many activities for all ages with our festivals, nature trails, fall foliage, and programs. We focus on education this season, with the introduction of our new Educator's Resource Guide. We hope educators will find the pull-out guide ideal for their students and helpful in planning visits to National Capital Parks-East.

We take this opportunity to wish you a safe and happy holiday season!

Gayle Hazelwood



Message From the Deputy Superintendent

Dear Visitor:

The Fall season at National Capital Parks-East promises to be scenic and enjoyable for our visitors. Just minutes away from the Nation's Capital, you can hike one of the beautiful trails at Greenbelt or Fort Washington Parks to enjoy the fall foliage or launch your boat at Anacostia Park or Marshall Hall to enjoy the views from the water. Whatever your interests are, you will find them at one of our sites. This Fall edition of Beyond The Capital features a section highlighting our partners and offers a wide variety of programs to school groups and the general public. Please take a moment to view our guide and all the programs we have to offer you.

As always, have a safe and enjoyable visit at your National Park!

Alexcy Romero



Printed on recycled paper.

Mission

As one of the 388 parks in the National Park System, National Capital Parks-East shares the mission to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.



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Beyond the Capital: A Visitor's Guide to NCP-East is a publication of the National Park Service.

Correspondence should be addressed to: National Capital Parks-East, Newspaper Editor, 1900 Anacostia Drive, SE, Washington, D.C. 20020.

PLEASE tell us what you think. Letters and comments should include a full name and address or email address.

Publication Staff

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Educator's Resource Guide designed by Monta Coleman

Image on front cover: View of the Commandant's House from the Parade Grounds of the historical fort. Fort Washington Park, NPS Photo, Bill Clark.

Trip Planner

National Capital Parks-East (NCP- East) has an important story to tell; from the people or places it commemorates, to the natural and cultural wonders it protects; from neighborhood community parks and National Historic Sites to unique wetland ecosystems, meadows, and mature hardwood forests, the grand diversity of NCP-East offers something for everyone.

Special Services

NCP-East makes every effort to provide access to all of our facilities and programs to the broadest possible range of visitors. From the elderly and children, to those not so physically able, NCP-East strives to create inclusive opportunities for people of all abilities. For detailed information on special services, visitors should contact the park's Accessibility Coordinator at (202) 690-5188.

Camping

A 174-site campground at Greenbelt Park is open all year. Facilities are available for tents, recreation vehicles, and trailers up to 30 feet long. Restrooms, showers, picnic tables, water, and fire

grates are provided. There are no electric hookups and camping is limited to 14 days. Fees are charged. For campground reservations, call 1-800-365-CAMP or (301) 344-2929.

Park Regulations

Help protect park resources and ensure an enjoyable visit for everyone by complying with park rules and posted regulations.

- Pets are welcome, except at Oxon Cove Park. Pets must be kept on leashes no longer than 6 feet long and under control at all times.
- Discharging firearms anywhere on NCP-East lands is unlawful.
- Dispose of your garbage and other refuse by placing in park provided containers.
- When hiking, stay on the established trails and watch your footing at all times.

- Please respect park resources and keep bicycles on paved roads and designated bike trails.

Important Phone Numbers

Emergencies	Dial 911
U.S. Park Police Communications Center	202.619.7105
Park Headquarters	202.690.5185
Campground Reservations	800.365.CAMP 301.344.2929
Local Weather	202.936.1212
Metro Rail and Bus	202.637.7000

Support Your National Parks

ANYONE PLANNING TO VISIT a national park this year can help National Capital Parks - East (NCP-East) by purchasing a National Parks Pass from a NCP-East site before leaving the park. The attractive Pass has been offered for sale since National Park Week in April 2000.

National Park Passes are \$50.00 each and allow unlimited entrance to National Parks that have an entrance fee. The pass is good for one year from the date of purchase and admits the owner and other passengers where per-vehicle entrance is charged or the owner, spouse, children, and parents where a per-person fee is charged. For an additional \$15, the purchaser of a Park Pass will receive a gold hologram sticker that upgrades the Park Pass to a Golden Eagle. Golden Eagle Passes provide admittance to other public lands with entrance fees. Passes are for entrance fees only and not user fees such as campgrounds, parking, etc. Income generated by the sale of the National Park Pass will support priority projects at the park where the card is purchased.

A Pass can also be purchased online by visiting www.national-parks.org or over the phone by calling 1-888-GO-PARKS. Although Fort Washington is the only NCP-East site that charges an entrance fee, the entire Park benefits. 80% of the \$50.00 price will stay at NCP-East if the pass is purchased at one of our sites.

The National Park Pass

- allows admission for you and your family to all National Parks.
- is good for one year from the month of purchase.
- comes with a special Pop-Out™ map of all the National Parks.
- supports America's National Parks because \$40 of each purchase goes directly to the Parks to support vital programs.

Points of Interest

Anacostia Park

ANACOSTIA PARK presently spans over 1,200 acres stretching the length of the Anacostia River from the Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge north approximately five miles to the District/Maryland line. It includes Langston Golf Course and River Terrace and is one of Washington, D.C.'s largest and most important parks with diverse recreational opportunities, natural areas and historic sites.

This multi-use recreation park, with shoreline access, skating pavilion, ball fields, basketball and tennis courts, and picnic areas attracts people from throughout the city and across the nation. The shorelines also provide opportunities for river access, fishing, birding, and just relaxing!



Contact Information:

1900 Anacostia Drive,
SE Washington, D.C. 20020
202-472-3884
www.nps.gov/nace

Capitol Hill Parks

When L'Enfant submitted his design for the national capital of Washington in 1790, a system of grand avenues, public buildings, and grounds dominated the overall plan. Many of the parks, medians, circles, and squares of Capitol Hill evolved from this plan and its subsequent modification, in 1901, by the McMillan Commission.

The **CAPITOL HILL PARKS** located between 2nd Streets NE and SE and the Anacostia River, provide elegant and useful greenspace within the city of Washington for relaxation, aesthetic enjoyment and historic commemoration.

Included in this group are: Lincoln, Folger, Stanton, and Marion Parks; Maryland Avenue Triangles; Pennsylvania Avenue Medians, Squares and Triangles, including Seward Square; Potomac Avenue Metro Stations; Twining Square, and other inner city green spaces.

Contact Information

1900 Anacostia Drive, SE
Washington, D.C. 20020
202-690-5185
www.nps.gov/nace

Fort Dupont Park

FORT DUPONT PARK, is the largest of the Fort Circle Parks. Today, Fort Dupont Park is a heavily wooded, 400-acre site that protects an important sub-watershed of the Anacostia River and contains, tennis and basketball courts, softball fields, and a community ice-rink. Its rolling wooded hills are an important visual element of the Nation's Capital, and provide an attractive setting for community garden plots, frolicking children and an annual summer concert series. There you will also find hiking and biking trails, and picnicking areas. The park is open to the public daily, from dawn to dusk.



Contact Information

1411 W Street, SE
Washington, D.C. 20020-4813
202-426-5961
www.nps.gov/fodu

Fort Washington Park

FORT WASHINGTON is a 19th century fortification that was built to defend the Nation's Capital from naval attack. The fort remained active through 1946.

Fort Washington's Visitor Center and Fort are closed on Thanksgiving, December 25, and January 1. The grounds are open from sunrise to sunset and the Fort and Visitor Center are open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Memorial Day through Labor Day and from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Labor Day through Memorial Day. An entrance fee is charged from April through October. Tours of the fort are available daily. Picnicking areas, river views and access, and extensive woodlands and hiking trails are also available. Fort Washington Park hosts a number of special events annually including Civil War artillery firing demonstrations and living history programs.

Contact Information

1355 Ft. Washington Road
Ft. Washington, MD 20744
301-763-4600
www.nps.gov/fowa

Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS

Nestled in the heart of the Logan Circle Historic District in Washington, D.C. is the **MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE COUNCIL HOUSE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE**. Bethune founded the National Council of Negro Women and the site served as its national headquarters from 1943 to 1966.

The site is open to the public Monday through Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. It is closed January 1, Thanksgiving, and December 25. Tours are available for both individuals and groups of all ages.

The site's archive houses materials pertaining to black women and their organizations, and contains extensive correspondence, photographs, and memorabilia relating to the National Council of Negro Women.

Contact Information

1318 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20005
202-673-2402
www.nps.gov/mamc

Oxon Cove Park/ Oxon Hill Farm

Located in the District of Columbia and Prince George's County, Maryland, **OXON COVE PARK** features the historic **OXON HILL FARM**. Visitors can explore the early 19th century farm house (Welby Manor), and other historic barns, stables, and outbuildings. Animals, crops, orchards, and gardens are also found on the farm site. The park's 512 acres also provide recreational opportunities for hiking, biking, and picnicking, and are an excellent resource for environmental studies, wildlife observation and fishing.

The Farm is open to the public daily from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. except January 1, Thanksgiving, and December 25. Reservations are required for special programs, education offerings, and popular activities such as milking cows, gathering eggs and wagon rides.

Contact Information

6411 Oxon Hill Road
Oxon Hill, MD 20745
301-839-1176
www.nps.gov/oxhi

Piscataway Park

Situated along the Potomac River in Maryland, **PISCATAWAY PARK** was created to preserve the historic views from Fort Washington to Mount Vernon, home to President George Washington. The forested coves and tidal marshes located along the Piscataway Park shoreline are great for exploring by canoe, and Saylor Grove is a beautiful place for picnicking and fishing. The park is also home to bald eagles, beavers, fox, osprey and many other species. To complement the surroundings, the park offers a public fishing pier (presently closed for repairs) and two boardwalks over fresh water tidal wetlands, a variety of nature trails, meadows, and woodland areas, each with unique features.

Piscataway Park is located on the east shore of the Potomac River, west of Accokeek, Maryland.

Contact Information

13551 Ft. Washington Road
Ft. Washington, MD 20744
301-763-4600
www.nps.gov/pisc

Sewall Belmont House and Museum

The **SEWALL-BELMONT HOUSE AND MUSEUM** is the site where suffrage leader Alice Paul and the women of the National Woman's Party led the fight for equal rights for women in the United States and throughout the world. The National Woman's Party was instrumental in gaining the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment to the Constitution giving women the right to vote.

Alice Paul, the author of the Equal Rights Amendment, lived and worked in the house for many years. The library, which contains an unparalleled collection of suffrage and equal rights artifacts and documents, is dedicated to the history of the party and the history of the suffrage and equal rights movements.

Contact Information

44 Constitution Avenue, NE
Washington, D.C. 20002
202-546-1210
www.sewallbelmont.org

Frederick Douglass NHS

Perhaps the most widely known NCP-East site is Cedar Hill -- the home of abolitionist and reformer Frederick Douglass. The **FREDERICK DOUGLASS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE** houses an impressive collection of original furnishings and artifacts associated with this great American.

The park is open to the public daily, except January 1, Thanksgiving and December 25. Visitors learn about the life of Frederick Douglass through exhibits, a film in the visitor center, and ranger-led tours of the home. Space in the house is limited. Reservations are required for groups of 5 or more and encouraged for others.

The public can expect a few closures of the home throughout the fall as the site undergoes a series of maintenance projects. For closures or project updates, please call ahead or check the park's website.

Contact Information

1411 W Street, SE
Washington, D.C.
20020-4813
202-426-5961
www.nps.gov/frdo

Greenbelt Park

GREENBELT PARK is a natural oasis situated just 12 miles from Washington, D.C. and 23 miles from Baltimore, Maryland. The park's 1,100 acres of oak, maple, sweetgum, and old pine are a retreat from the pressures of city life and a forested refuge for native plants and animals.

A wide range of recreational opportunities and educational programs are available year-round on request, including facilities for picnicking, camping, backpacking, biking, bird watching, hiking and wildlife viewing.

The park is open daily from dawn to dusk. The Ranger Station is available year-round from 8:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m., except Thanksgiving and December 25.

Contact Information

6565 Greenbelt Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-344-3948
www.nps.gov/gree



Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens

KENILWORTH AQUATIC GARDENS is the only NPS site devoted to the cultivation of flowering aquatic plants. It is a 12-acre sanctuary that features serene ponds and flowering water lilies and lotus, as well as many species of birds and wildlife. The Aquatic Gardens' annual Waterlily Festival in July attracts thousands of visitors at the peak of the blooming season. A visitor center and greenhouse are open year-round.

KENILWORTH MARSH is a 77-acre freshwater tidal marsh that borders the Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens. The marsh includes 32-acres of marsh restored in the 1990s to help provide habitat to a wide array of wildlife and wetland plants native to the region. An interpretive boardwalk and the River Trail from the Aquatic Gardens provide visitors access to various marsh zones and the Anacostia River.

Contact Information

1550 Anacostia Avenue, NE
Washington, D.C. 20019
202-426-6905
www.nps.gov/kepa

Langston Golf Course

Named for John Mercer Langston, an African American elected to Congress in 1888, **LANGSTON GOLF COURSE**, offers an 18-hole course, driving range and clubhouse.

The Course opened in 1939, as a 9-hole facility when very limited golfing facilities were available to African Americans. Nine additional holes were constructed in the 1950s. Although the layout and landscape has evolved over time, Langston Golf Course was placed on the National Register of Historic Places for its association with the efforts to provide equal access during the era of racial segregation. It is also historically associated with pioneering African American golf clubs and professional golfers.

Langston's Pro Shop and snack bar are open from dawn to dusk year-round. The driving range is open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily. Programs beyond golf are offered for youth, and private lessons are available by appointment.

Contact Information

26th & Benning Road, NE
Washington, D.C. 20019
202-397-8638 phone
www.golfdc.com

Volunteer Opportunities at NCP-East

The National Park Service offers volunteer opportunities to high schools, colleges, adult organizations and community groups to support the efforts of National Capital Parks-East.

A volunteer experience contributes much to the mission of the National Park Service and to the community. National Capital Parks-East (NACE) VIP job opportunities are diverse and are available at all eight NACE park sites. Volunteers welcome visitors to the parks, conduct guided tours, assist with special event support, maintain trails, serve as campground hosts, design computer programs and much more. You are encouraged to contact Volunteer Coordinators at the below sites to inquire further about volunteer jobs and opportunities that we are seeking to fill or visit us at <http://www.nps.gov/nace>.



PARK	COORDINATORS	PHONE
Anacostia Park	Wayne Phillips	202.472.3884
Fort Dupont Park	Paul Gross	202.426.5961
Fort Washington Park	Don Steiner	301.763.4600
Frederick Douglass NHS	Paul Gross	202.426.5961
Greenbelt Park	Kevin Barry	301.344.3944
Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens	Debbie Kirkley	202.426.6905
Mary McLeod Bethune Council House	Joy Kinard	202.673.2402
Oxon Cove Park/Oxon Hill Farm	Owen Johnson, Jr.	301.839.1176

Park Partners

Accokeek Foundation

The **ACCOKEEK FOUNDATION** operates the **National Colonial Farm**, located in Piscataway Park. The farm was established by the Foundation in 1958 to educate people about farm life. The farm is a re-creation of a middle class farm dating back to 1775. Living demonstrations depict the life of a typical family during colonial times.

Visitors will find a circa 1780 farm dwelling, an 18th century tobacco farm, a smokehouse, a public fishing pier and a riverside path with a beautiful view of Mount Vernon, the former home of President George Washington. The Ecosystem Farm offers educational opportunities through Center for Land-Based Training.

Contact Information

3400 Bryan Point Road
Accokeek, MD 20607
301-283-2113
www.accokeek.org

Alice Ferguson Foundation

The **ALICE FERGUSON FOUNDATION** is a preeminent environmental educational organization on the Potomac River in Piscataway Park. As a leader of watershed stewardship, it models innovative practices, outreach, partnerships, programs and events that are replicated globally. Through its award winning program for school children at **Hard Bargain Farm** and the **Bridging the Watershed** program, students are guided to conduct investigations of the local environment, including wetlands, farmlands and meadows while expanding their personal connection to the natural world.

Each year, more than 10,000 students from the Washington, DC Metropolitan Area come to Hard Bargain Farm for day or overnight education field trips, the Annual Potomac Watershed Cleanup, and the Annual Spring Farm Festival.

Contact Information

2001 Bryan Point Road
Accokeek, MD 20607
301-292-5665

Anacostia Community Boathouse Association

ANACOSTIA COMMUNITY BOATHOUSE ASSOCIATION (The ABCA) a volunteer organization dedicated to safe and environmentally responsible recreation on the Anacostia River.

The ABCA provides opportunities for nonmotorized recreational water activities such as rowing and paddling, kayaking and canoeing. As a partner with the National Park Service, ABCA works to improve boathouse facilities for the diverse communities along the Anacostia River. A permanent community boathouse is planned on the north shore of the Anacostia River that will contribute to the restoration and revitalization of the entire Southeast Washington and Anacostia community, and advance and improve access to the river for all to enjoy.

Contact Information

1115 O Street, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20005-4405
202-548-0469
www.anacostiaboathouse.org

Aquatic Resources Education Center

The **AQUATIC RESOURCES EDUCATION CENTER** (AREC) is located in Anacostia Park directly next to the Anacostia Skating Pavilion. The Center is a cooperative partnership between the District of Columbia's Fisheries and Wildlife Division, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service.

Visitors and students learn about the ecology, conservation and biology of local aquatic and fisheries resources through workshops, presentations and interactive displays. These activities and programs also serve to educate the local community on the need for awareness and protection of these fragile resources.



Contact Information

1900 Anacostia Dr., S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20020
202-535-2260
www.doh.dc.gov/doh/cwp



Discovery Creek Children's Museum

DISCOVERY CREEK provides environmental education programs for children, families, and teachers. These hands-on, thought provoking programs take place in partnership with National Capital Parks-East and DC Public Schools at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens. School-day science programs engage and excite elementary school age children to learn about science and nature. Discovery Creek inspires children to develop a life-long love of learning and a passion for the environment.



Contact Information

2233 Wisconsin Avenue NW Suite 410,
Washington, D.C. 20007
202-337-5111
www.discoverycreek.org

Earth Conservation Corps

EARTH CONSERVATION CORPS (ECC) is a non-profit youth development and environmental service organization located on the Anacostia River. ECC provides underprivileged young people with hands-on life skills, education, career and environmental training with an overall goal to facilitate the restoration of the Anacostia River and its surrounding communities.

Since 1992, ECC has recruited and trained over 18,000 young people in an effort to reclaim the Anacostia River. In 2002, ECC was awarded a grant to construct the first three demonstration sites of the Riverwalk Trail: Henson Park, the Old Capital Pump House, and a trail beneath the 11th Street bridge. ECC is a valuable partner to the National Park Service, assisting in the clean-up, beautification and restoration of several park sites

Contact Information

Earth Conservation Corps
First Street & Potomac Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20003
202-554-1960
www.ECC1.org

Friends of Fort Dupont Ice Arena, Inc.

Fort Dupont Ice Arena is owned by the National Park Service and managed and operated by **FRIENDS OF FORT DUPONT ICE ARENA, INC.** Fort Dupont Ice Arena is the only public indoor ice arena in the city of

Washington, D.C. The ice arena offers athletic programs that encourage community participation. Many of the community programs such as **Kids on Ice** are free. Fort Dupont



Ice Arena has been named as America's Promise "Safe Place" - a safe place for young people offering structured activities during non-school hours. This designation was awarded by America's Promise Alliance for Youth Organization founded by General Colin Powell. The ice arena also serves as the venue for hockey tournaments and a practice rink for school hockey teams.

Contact Information

3779 Ely Place, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20019
(202) 584-5007
www.fdia.org

Student Conservation Association

STUDENT CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION (SCA) provides high school students, college students and others with meaningful conservation service internships and volunteer opportunities in our national parks. Students enjoy adventure, gain experience and make a difference. SCA has made an invaluable contribution to the beautification and conservation of the parks in National Capital Parks-East.



Contact Information

1800 North Kent Street, Suite 102
Arlington, VA 22209
703-524-2441
www.thesca.org

AQUATIC RESOURCES EDUCATION CENTER RE-OPENS

In April 2005, a ribbon cutting ceremony marked the opening of the newly renovated Aquatic Resources Center (AREC) located in Anacostia Park, in southeast Washington, D.C. The Center, operated by the D.C. Department of Wildlife, Division of Aquatic & Wildlife Resources Education, provides free educational programs relating to rivers, wildlife and habitat. These hands-on workshops that include an introduction to fishing and to the fragile ecology of the Anacostia River, provide experiences for students and visitors of all ages in a new, bright and engaging environment.

Developed in partnership with the National Park Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Center offers offsite classroom presentations, teacher workshops, a fishing tackler loaner program and a variety of aquatic education offerings that include topics from non-point source pollution to water ecology.

"Many of the students who will attend the Center are native Washingtonians from southeast D.C. The Anacostia River is their 'backyard' said park Superintendent Gayle Hazelwood. "With our partners, we look forward to bringing our strengths to bear to help conserve this treasure and make a difference in our community."



September 2005

Living History Day

Oxon Cove Park -

Mount Welby Farm House

12:30 p.m. Saturday, September 3

301- 839-1176

All Ages

Costumed interpreters will portray the people who lived on the Oxon Hill Farm property in the 19th Century.

Recovering Fitness

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens - Visitor Center

9:00 a.m. Saturday, September 3

(every other Saturday through December)

202-426-6905

Adults

This activity is suitable for anyone who needs a little support to start getting back in shape. Fitness walks will explore Washington's history, nature and culture. Come prepared for an easy, but sometimes wet walk.

Invasive Plant Removal

Greenbelt Park -

Sweetgum Picnic Area

11:00 a.m. Saturday, September 3

301-344-3944

All Ages

Help protect Greenbelt Park from harmful invasive plants. Join in a hands-on nature preservation activity and learn about native and non-native plants. This program will take place every first Saturday of each month, come rain or shine. Please wear appropriate shoes, clothing and work gloves and bring lunch/snack. This is a partnership between Greenbelt Park and the University of Maryland.



Artillery demonstration at Fort Washington Park.
NPS Photo, Barbara Wadding.

Artillery Demonstrations

Fort Washington Park - Old Fort

1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m. & 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 4

301-763-4600

All Ages

Volunteers dressed in Civil War uniforms will present cannon firing demonstrations and explain the procedures used during the muzzle-loading era of American artillery.

Techno Bats

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens - Visitor Center

9:00 a.m. Saturday, September 3

202-426-6905

Pre-school - Adults

A casual look at bats and the wave technology they use to find bugs at night, avoid crashes and communicate with each other. Separate the myth from the facts. Meet "Smoochy," the unfortunate bat. "Smoochy" had more problems after he died and was stuffed than he ever had in life.

Brunswick Stew

Oxon Cove Park - Visitor Center

12:30 p.m. Saturday, September 10

301- 839-1176

All Ages

Learn the recipe of Brunswick Stew, a popular dish of the 19th century. Sorry, no tasting.

Family Skate Day

Anacostia Park - Skating Pavilion

12:00 noon to 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 11

202- 472-3873

All Ages

Our Family Skate Association promotes family and community togetherness and fitness through roller-skating.

Extra Special All Skate

Anacostia Park - Skating Pavilion

12:00 noon to 7:00 p.m.

Friday, September 16

202-472-3873

All Ages

Family Skate Association presents a skating program for those with physical and congestive disabilities, thereby promoting community fitness and togetherness through skating.



Wayside Walking Tour

Oxon Cove Park -

Meet at the parking lot

12:30 p.m. Saturday, September 17

301-839-1176

Adults

Take a 1.2 mile leisurely walk through the park to explore the outside exhibits. We will stop at each exhibit and have a brief discussion to enhance our understanding of the significance of Oxon Cove Park. Wear comfortable shoes and dress for the weather. Reservations required.

2004 Maryland

Lighthouse Challenge

Fort Washington Park - Lighthouse

8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 17

& Sunday, September 18

301-763-4600

All Ages

Nine Lighthouses, One Lightship, Two Days - Discover an important aspect of Maryland's maritime history during this educational and fun-filled event showcasing Maryland's land-accessible lighthouses. Participating lighthouses: Concord Point, Cove Point, Drum Point, Fort Washington, Hooper Straight, Piney Point, Point Lookout, Seven Foot Knoll, Turkey Point and the Chesapeake Lightship.



Fort Washington Park Lighthouse.
NPS Photo.

Public Lands Day

Greenbelt Park -

Sweetgum Picnic Area

11:00 a.m. Saturday, September 17

301-344-3944

Ages 14 and up

Volunteer to help Greenbelt with a park improvement project.

Frederick Douglass Memorial & Historical Association Community Program

Frederick Douglass National

Historic Site - Visitor Center

2:00 p.m. Saturday, September 17

202-426-5961

Speaker TBA

Family Skate Day

Anacostia Park - Skating Pavilion

12:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 18

202-472-383

All ages

Our Family Skate Association is promoting family and community togetherness and fitness through roller skating.

Environmental Expo

Anacostia Park - Skating Pavilion

8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Friday, September 23

202-472-3873

All Ages

Environmental education, displays and programs for students.

St. Elizabeth's Hospital Era

Oxon Cove Park - Visitor Barn

12:30 p.m. Saturday, September 24

301-839-1176

Adults

Learn about the history of the farm from 1891 to 1967 when Oxon Cove Park was the St. Elizabeth Hospital Farm of Washington, DC.



Oxon Cove Park.
NPS Photo, Robert Epstein.

Daily Programs at Oxon Cove Park

Cow Milking

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday

11:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday and Friday

10:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday

10:00 a.m., 3:30 p.m.

Wagon Ride

Saturday through Thursday

1:30 p.m.

Friday

11:00 a.m.

Special Wagon Ride

September Only

Wednesday at 9:30 a.m.

History of the Farm

Tuesday, Thursday, Sunday

2:30 p.m.

Chicken Program

Saturday through Thursday

11:00 a.m.

Seasonal Displays at Oxon Cove Park

October - Harvest Time

November - Native

American Month

December - Holiday

Celebration

All displays are located in the Visitor Barn.

October 2005

What's the Fuss with Squirrels?

Greenbelt Park - Ranger Station
1:00 p.m. Saturday, September 24
RSVP at 301-344-3944
Ages 5 to 12
Learn how and why squirrels build warm nests, use trees for shelter and food source and how they communicate.

25th Annual Oktoberfest and Auction

Hard Bargain Farm
Accokeek, Maryland
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, September 24
301-292-5665
All Ages
Alice Ferguson Foundation presents the 25th Annual Oktoberfest and Auction. Enjoy delicious homemade authentic German cuisine, Spaten Beer, pressed apple cider, baked goods and delicacies, grilled pretzels, arts and crafts for kids, hay wagon rides to the river, music and dance by the Washingtonia Schulpplattlers, and live and silent auction. Admission is \$6.00 per person.

Universal Soldier: Military Timeline Event

Fort Washington Park - Visitor Center
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, September 24
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Sunday, September 25
301-763-4600
All Ages
Witness the evolution of military power as living history enactors depict soldier life from ancient Roman times to the present.

Frederick Douglass at Home

Frederick Douglass National Historic Site
2:00 p.m. Sunday, September 25
202-426-5961
All Ages
Join a park ranger for a program on Frederick Douglass as a family man.

Invasive Plant Removal

Greenbelt Park - Sweetgum Picnic Area
11:00 a.m. Saturday, October 1
301-344-3944
All Ages
Help protect Greenbelt Park from harmful invasive plants. Join in a hands-on nature preservation activity and learn about native and non-native plants. This program will be every first Saturday of each month, come rain or shine. Please wear appropriate shoes, clothing, work gloves and bring lunch/snack. This is a partnership between Greenbelt Park and the University of Maryland.

Artillery Demonstrations

Fort Washington Park - Old Fort
1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m. & 3:00 p.m.
Sunday, October 2
301-763-4600
All Ages
Volunteers dressed in Civil War uniforms will present cannon firing demonstrations and explain the procedures used during the muzzle-loading era of American artillery.

Education is the Answer: A Teen Forum

Frederick Douglass National Historic Site - Visitor Center
9:00 a.m. Wednesday, October 5
202-426-5961
All Ages
A panel of motivational community leaders will discuss Frederick Douglass' emphasis on education with high school students. Reservations required.



Tour of the Frederick Douglass house.
NPS Photo.

Apple Cider Days

Oxon Cove Park - Visitor Barn
12:30 p.m. Saturday, October 8
301-839-1176
All Ages
We will crank up the cider press and make old fashioned apple cider. Learn how this popular drink of the 19th century is made. Sorry, no tasting.

Fall Festival

Greenbelt Park - Sweetgum Picnic Area
12:00 noon until 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, October 8
(rain date Sunday, October 9)
RSVP at 301-344-3944
All Ages
Join us in the Sweetgum Picnic Area as we celebrate the arrival of fall. There is fun to be had by all through music, entertainment, games, hayrides and more.

Family Harvest Skate Jam

Anacostia Park - Skating Pavilion
1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday, October 8
202-472-3873
All Ages
Our Family Skate Association and Skate-A-Licious are promoting community and family togetherness and fitness through roller-skating.

Recovering Fitness

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens - Visitor Center
9:00 a.m. Saturday, October 8
(every other Saturday through December)
202-426-6905
Adults
This activity is suitable for anyone who needs a little support to start getting back in shape. Fitness walks will explore Washington's history, nature and culture. Come prepared for an easy, but sometimes wet walk.

National Capital Parks-East

National Capital Region

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Washington, D.C.



EDUCATOR'S RESOURCE GUIDE

2005- 2006 EDUCATIONAL & INTERPRETIVE PROGRAMS



ANACOSTIA PARK - FORT WASHINGTON PARK -
MARY McLEOD BETHUNE COUNCIL HOUSE NHS -
GREENBELT PARK- KENILWORTH AQUATIC GARDENS -
FREDERICK DOUGLASS NHS- OXON COVE PARK

*k - Azalea Trail
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Squash

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Greenbelt Park
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a Park Ranger for
3944.*



Greetings Educators:

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the National Capital Parks-East (NCP-East) 2005-2006 Educator's Resource Guide.

National Capital Parks-East offers a wide array of historic, cultural, natural and recreational park sites located in Washington, D.C. and Maryland. The resource guide includes programs offered at Anacostia Park, Fort Washington Park, Frederick Douglass NHS, Greenbelt Park, Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens, Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS and Oxon Cove Park.

We offer a variety of interpretive tours and curriculum-based educational programs for all grade levels. The program subjects range from sheep shearing to African American History; from bats to Bambi; from environmental education to Civil War fort tours. We also offer programs off-site. National Park Rangers can bring certain programs to your classroom. Our curriculum-based programs, such as the Mount Welby program at Oxon Cove Park, offer an interactive park/school experience. All sites require you to schedule an appointment prior to your visit. I hope that you find the guide useful in planning your projects and field trips.

We are interested in receiving your comments on this resource guide. For additional information about the programs in the guide and/or to submit comments, contact:

Ms. Lori M James, Education Specialist,
National Capital Parks -East
1900 Anacostia Drive, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20020
202-692-6036
lori_M_james@nps.gov

Gayle Hazelwood
Superintendent
National Capital Parks-East

ANACOSTIA PARK

202-472-3884



Bridging the Watershed Curriculum Based Program

- Talkin' Trash
- Alien Invaders
- Watershed Watchdogs
- Don't Get Sedimental

This program is for Grades 9-12. For additional information contact Kate Bucco at 202-426-6905.

Aquatic Resources Education Center Program sponsored by DC Department of Health Fisheries & Wildlife Division

- Free Fishing
- Fishing Tackle Loaner Program
- Teacher Workshops
- Wetlands
- Aquatic Ecology
- Water as an Environment
- Chesapeake Bay
- Fish Biology

This program is offered to various grade levels all year.

DC Urban Tree House School Outreach Program partnered with Student Conservation Association (SCA)

- Resource Center
- Outreach Projects
- Service Projects

This program is offered all year by Park Rangers and SCA staff for all grades.

National Park Service & SCA Summer Programs

- Why is the River Brown?
- Where Does Water Come From?
- Oh Deer
- Owl Pellets
- Animal Adapt
- The Web of Life
- Renewable or Not
- Forest Ecology

This program is offered during the summer by Park Rangers and SCA staff for grades 5-9.



FORT WASHINGTON PARK

301-763-4600

Bridging the Watershed Curriculum Based Program

- Talkin' Trash
- Watershed Watchdogs
- Alien Invaders
- Don't Get Sedimental

This program is offered spring/fall for Grades 9-12. For additional information contact Kate Bucco at 202-426-6905.

Tours of the Fort are offered to all grades upon request.

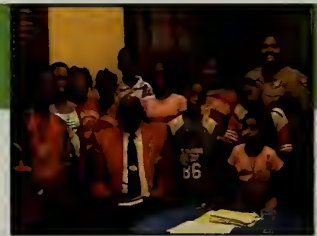
MARY McLEOD BETHUNE NHS

202-673-2402

Distant Learning Curriculum Based Programs

- Women's History Video & Book Loan Program
- Breaking Barriers Mrs. Bethune's Way Travel Notebook
- Civil Rights Education Packet

All information is available upon request for Middle and High School students.



Parks As Classrooms Curriculum Based Programs

- Elephant Program (Grades Pre-K)
- Social Action Through Music (Grades 7-9)
- Living the Legacy (Grades 9 & 10)
- Experience Your America (Grades 4-6)

All programs are offered throughout the year.

PROGRAMS	GRADES
Adopt An Object*	K-2
There's History in Things*	9-12
Just The Facts about Artifacts*	K-3
Artifact Search Contest	K-5
Genealogy Contest	6-8
Community Stories*	6-12
Photo Contest	9-12
The Alert Game	4

These programs are offered to 20 junior rangers during the summer and to school groups fall/spring upon request. Programs with asterisk () are curriculum based programs.*

GREENBELT PARK

301-344-3944

Bridging the Watershed Curriculum Based Program

-Watershed Watchdogs
-Don't Get Sedimental

-Alien Invaders
-Water Canaries

This program is offered spring/fall for Grades 9-12. For additional information contact Kate Bucco at 202-426-6905.



PROGRAMS	GRADES
Where Water Goes	2-8
Your Watershed Begins Here	2-8
Algonquin, Pioneers and Use of the Woods	2-8
Does Bambi Live Here?	2-6
Azalea Trail Walk	All Grades
How Trash Affects the Environment	All Grades
Campfire Safety Program	All Grades
Mary McLeod Bethune	All Grades
Beavers	All Grades
History of the National Park Service	All Grades
Wilma Rudolph	All Grades
Reading Ranger	K-6
George Washington Carver	All Grades
How Big is Your Tree	All Grades
Seasonal Change	All Grades
African American Fur Trappers	All Grades
Living Off the Land	All Grades
How the Indians Enriched America	All Grades
Creepy Crawlers	2-6
What You Should Know About Squirrels	All Grades
Black Aviators Before Tuskegee	4-12
Black Bears: Yogi, BooBoo and You	All Grades
Safety in Bear Country	All Grades
Nature's Garbage Removal	4-Adult
Life of a Fox	3-Adult
Black Seminole Scouts	4-Adult
The Earth and Its' Environment	3-Adult
Learning About the Environment thru Sharing	3-Adult

These programs are offered all year upon request.



KENILWORTH AQUATIC GARDENS

202-426-6905

Bridging the Watershed Curriculum Based Program

- Talkin' Trash
- Watershed Watchdogs

This program is offered spring/fall for Grades 9-12. For additional information contact Kate Bucco at 202-426-6905.

PROGRAMS	GRADES	TIMES
Reptiles and Amphibians	5-12	Spring
Wetland Ecology	5-12	All Year
Stream Ecology	4-9	All Year
It's Alive	K-1	All Year
Water for Life	5-12	All Year
Pond Ecology	K-4	All Year
Techno Bats *	Pre-K	All Year
Energy and the Chesapeake*	6-12	All Year

Programs with asterisk () are curriculum based programs.*

FREDERICK DOUGLASS NHS

202-426-5961



The Making of an African American Identity, 1816 - 1917: Teacher's Workshop

On Saturday, November 5 from 9:00am-12:00pm, join the American Studies Association for a teacher's workshop at the visitor's center. This program is open to teachers K-12 and university professors. It is limited to 40 participants. Registration is required by October 21 with a fee of \$10.00 per person.

For additional information call 202-467-4783 or visit this website: <http://www.georgetown.edu/crossroads/asainfo>

PROGRAMS	GRADES	TIMES
Daily Interpretive Tours	All Grades	Upon Request
Off-Site Programs	1-12	Upon Request
Oratorical Contest	1-12	November
Frederick Douglass Birthday Celebration	All Grades	February
Christmas on Cedar Hill	All Grades	December

OXON COVE PARK

301-839-0211

Bridging the Watershed Curriculum Based Program

- Talkin' Trash
- Watershed Watchdogs

This program is offered spring/fall for Grades 9-12. For additional information contact Kate Bucco at 202-426-6905.



Curriculum Based Programs

- Mount Welby Exploring the Past (Grades K-6)
- Animal Life on the Farm (Grades K-2)
- ”Moo” Velous Milk (Grades K-3)

Programs are offered weekly during the fall/spring. Contact the Park for additional information.

PROGRAMS	GRADES	TIMES
Sheep Sheering	K -6	Annually
Apple Cider Days	K - 12	Annually
Historical Farm Equipment	K-12	Fall/Winter
Talking Turkeys	K-6	Fall
Women’s Work on the Farm	K-6	Annually
Pumpkin: the Special Squash	All Grades	Fall
African American History	All Grades	February
Native American History	All Grades	November
Women’s History	All Grades	March
Cow Milking	All Grades	Daily
Chicken Feeding	All Grades	Daily
Spider Program	All Grades	Fall
Living History	All Grades	Spring
Rabbits	All Grades	Spring
Horse & Tractor	All Grades	Spring
Colonial Cooking	All Grades	3 Times per year

What's the Fuss w Squirrels?

*Greenbelt Park - Rang
1:00 p.m. Saturday, Se
RSVP at 301-344-3944
Ages 5 to 12*

Learn how and why s
build warm nests, use
shelter and food sour
they communicate.

25th Annual Oktol Auction

*Hard Bargain Farm
Accokeek, Maryland
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, September 2
301-292-5665*

All Ages
Alice Ferguson Foun
ents the 25th Annual
and Auction. Enjoy c
homemade authentic
sine, Spaten Beer, pre
cider, baked goods ar
grilled pretzels, arts a
kids, hay wagon rides
music and dance by t
Washingtonia Schulp
live and silent auction
is \$6.00 per person.

Universal Soldier: Timeline Event

*Fort Washington Park
Visitor Center
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, September
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Sunday, September 2
301-763-4600*

All Ages
Witness the evolution
power as living histor
depict soldier life fro
Roman times to the p

Frederick Douglas: Frederick Douglass No Historic Site

*2:00 p.m. Sunday, Sep
202-426-5961
All Ages*

Join a park ranger for
on Frederick Douglas
man.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
National Capital Region
1100 Ohio Drive SW
Washington, DC 20242

First Class Mail
Postage and Fees
PAID
City, State
Permit Number

Special Spiders - The Farmer's Friend

Oxon Cove Park - Visitor Barn

12:30 p.m. Saturday, October 15

301- 839 -1176

Geared towards ages 5-12, but all are welcomed.

Join us for a fun and educational look at spiders. Program includes stories and games, and will conclude with a walk exploring the world of spiders.

Food Preservation - Drying Apples

Oxon Cove Park - Visitor Barn

12:30 p.m. Saturday, October 22

301- 839 -1176

All Ages

Drying is the simplest method of food preservation. Come to the farm and learn how the inhabitants of the park property preserved food for the winter in the 19th century.



Fall Color

Greenbelt Park - Azalea Trail

1:00 p.m. Saturday, October 22

RSVP at 301-344-3944

Ages 5 to Adult

Join a Park Ranger as we discover one of the greatest shows on earth; the changing of the leaves in the hardwood trees from greens to spectacular reds, yellows and browns.

Pumpkins - The Special Squash

Oxon Cove Park - Visitor Barn

12:30 p.m. Saturday, October 29

301 - 839 - 1176

Geared to kids ages 5-12, but all are welcomed.

Join us for a look at how pumpkins have become a traditional harvest plant. Through stories, songs and poems, we will discover the place that pumpkins have in American culture.

Greenbelt Park Hosts Annual Fall Festival

Greenbelt Park will present its Fall Festival Saturday, October 8, from 12:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. with a rain date of October 9, 2005. The festival is a celebration of vibrant leaf colors from the many species of trees, brisk autumn air and the beginning of Fall. It's also designed to encourage family use of the park and to introduce the park to all members of the community.

Greenbelt Park is a unit of the National Park Service, National Capital Parks-East, located at 6565 Greenbelt Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770. The park is comprised of 1,100 acres and offers

visitors camping, hiking, biking, picnicking, environmental education programs, and special events. Last year, hundreds of community visitors participated in a fun-filled day of activities for all ages. We are looking forward to this year's festival bringing the community together with live music, games, arts and crafts, clowns, a magician, hay rides and much more. The festival will also feature Greenbelt Park maintenance heavy equipment, United States Park Police community programs, Smokey the Bear, pumpkin painting and more.

We are in search of local groups and community organizations to participate via safety demonstrations, exhibits and public awareness information booths. Please feel free to contact a Park Ranger for additional information on 301-344-3944.

November 2005

Historical Farm Equipment

Oxon Cove Park - Visitor Barn
12:30 p.m. Saturday, November 5
301- 839 - 1176
All Ages

Did you ever wonder what a strange looking piece of farm equipment was used for? Take a walking tour and learn how technology has changed from horse to machine power.

Invasive Plant Removal

Greenbelt Park - Sweetgum Picnic Area
11:00 a.m. Saturday, November 5
301-344-3944
All Ages

Help protect Greenbelt Park from harmful invasive plants. Join in a hands-on nature preservation activity and learn about native and non-native plants. This program will be every first Saturday of each month, come rain or shine. Please wear appropriate shoes, clothing, and work gloves and bring lunch/snack. This is a partnership between Greenbelt Park and the University of Maryland

Recovering Fitness

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens - Visitor Center
9:00 a.m. Saturday, November 5
202-426-6905
Adults

This activity is suitable for anyone who needs a little support to start getting back in shape. Fitness walks will explore Washington's history, nature and culture. Come prepared for an easy, but sometimes wet walk.

Native American Month

Oxon Cove Park - Visitor Center
12:30 p.m. Saturday, November 12
301 - 839 - 1176
All Ages

We will celebrate Native American Month with a look at how the first inhabitants of the Oxon Hill Farm property, Native Americans, celebrated the harvest and prepared for wintertime.



Daily Programs at Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS

Tours of the site are given daily, Monday thru Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Walk-in visitors are welcomed. Tours are available for individuals and groups of all ages. Reservations are required for groups of 10 or more. Visitors to the Bethune Council House will see original furnishings and historic photographs depicting the Council House from 1943 until 1966 when it was Mary McLeod Bethune's Washington, D.C. residence and the first headquarters of the National Council of Negro Women. The site is the location of the National Archives for Black Women's History which houses the largest manuscript collection of materials solely dedicated to African American women and their organizations.

Volunteer Day

Greenbelt Park - Ranger Station
10:00 a.m. to 12 noon - November 12
10 and Above

Join a Park Ranger and neighbors to help clean-up the park and campground. All participants are asked to meet at the Ranger Station.

Hogs on the Hill

Oxon Cove Park - Visitor Barn
12:30 p.m. Saturday, November 22
301 - 839 - 1176
All Ages
Learn about this popular farm animal, the hog, and the all the products that come from hogs.

Animals in the Winter

Greenbelt Park - Ranger Station
1:00 p.m. Saturday, November 26
RSVP at 301-344-3944
Ages 5 to 12
Come and discover animal behavior and animal survival techniques through winter.

Talkin' Turkeys

Oxon Cove Park - Visitor Center
12:30 p.m. Saturday, November 29
301 - 839 - 1176
All Ages
Meet the farm turkeys and learn why these birds have become an important harvest symbol. Join us for a fun and educational look at these native birds of America.



Mary McLeod Bethune Council House.
NPS Photo, Robert Epstein.



PHOTO CONTEST!!

We're looking for your best photos!

National Capital Parks-East is looking for photographs that you, our park visitors, take of the park sites that you visit at National Capital Parks-East.

We are launching a contest for the best photos. The winning photos will be featured in a monthly calendar that will be published in 2007.

National Capital Parks-East is comprised of more than 8,000 acres of federal lands, ranging from neighborhood community parks and National Historic Sites to unique wetland ecosystems, meadows and mature hardwood forests. The park contains miles of scenic parkways, hiking trails, riverfront, recreation areas, a Civil War fort, numerous statuary; rich cultural areas that honor women suffragists, Frederick Douglass, Native American ancestry and much more. We are looking for photos that capture the essence of these sites.

Photos should be digital and of a high resolution. Please submit your photos on a CD-ROM to: Janet Braxton, Public Information Officer, National Capital Parks-East, 1900 Anacostia Drive, S.E., Washington, D.C. 20020. Winners will be notified via email. Please include your name, telephone number and your email address. Photos will not be returned. Please submit your photos by January 31, 2006.



Annual Oratorical Contest

Frederick Douglass National Historic Site - Visitor Center

10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Monday,
December 5 - Friday, December 9
202-426-5961

This annual contest features speakers competing in three age groups: elementary, junior high and high school. Deadline for registration is November 30.

Meet the Beaver

Greenbelt Park - Ranger Station

11:00 a.m. Saturday, December 10

RSVP at 301-344-3944

Ages 5 to Adult

Join a Park Ranger as we learn what and how beavers build dams, construct lodges and cut down trees.

Cultural Holiday Festival

Oxon Cove Park - Visitor Center

1:00 p.m. Sunday, December 11

301- 839-1176

All Ages

Celebrate the holiday season at Oxon Hill Farm as we pay tribute to the many cultures (African American, European, and Native American) that have shaped the park's history. Join us for a fun and educational look back in time and celebrate this joyous holiday season.

Holiday Program

Frederick Douglass National Historic Site - Visitor Center

2:00 p.m. Sunday, December 18

202-426-5961

Celebrate the holidays by learning about the Victorian Christmas traditions of the Douglass family.



Federal Women's Food Drive

Greenbelt Park - Park Headquarter
& Ranger Station

November 25 through December 17,
2005

301-344-3944

All Ages

Help the less fortunate and support
the Federal Women's Food Drive.

December 2005

Invasive Plant Removal

Greenbelt Park - Sweetgum Picnic
Area

11:00 a.m. Saturday, December 3

301-344-3944

All Ages

Help protect Greenbelt Park from harmful invasive plants. Join in a hands-on nature preservation activity and learn about native and non-native plants. This program will be every first Saturday of each month, come rain or shine. Please wear appropriate shoes, clothing, and work gloves, and bring lunch/snack. This is a partnership between Greenbelt Park and the University of Maryland.

Recovering Fitness

Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens - Visitor
Center

9:00 a.m. Saturday, December 3

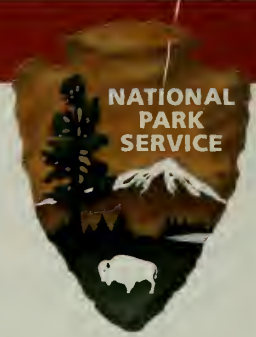
(every other Saturday through
December)

202-426-6905

Adults

This activity is suitable for anyone who needs a little support to start getting back in shape. Fitness walks will explore Washington's history, nature and culture. Come prepared for an easy, but sometimes wet walk.





Spotlight on Park Partners

NPCA Makes A Difference

The National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA) first came to Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens in the spring of 2001 to help organize a March for Parks and community appreciation day. That first event brought several hundred people into the park, including many residents of far-northeast Washington, DC who hadn't been to the Aquatic Gardens in years. Sensing that the atmosphere was right for increased interaction between the park and its neighbors, NPCA joined with National Park Service personnel and subsequently organized a series of community service, volunteer, and outdoor education events at the Aquatic Gardens. A large clean up scheduled for Saturday September 24, 2005 will be the 5th consecutive National Public Lands Day the Park Service and NPCA have co-sponsored.

Volunteers at the Aquatic Gardens have logged close to 1,500 hours of community service in recent years. The Volunteers in Parks (VIP) at the Aquatic Gardens have helped to reopen park trails by removing storm damage, repairing dykes on lily ponds, cleaning the cold frame beds, assisting park staff with event logistics during the annual Waterlily Festival, and removing countless tons of garbage from the marsh, boardwalk and riverwalk trail. Volunteers make a world of difference when it comes to improving the health and well being of the Aquatic Gardens.

That's why NPCA will continue to promote opportunities for citizens to demonstrate their love for our public lands by donating a few hours each month to help the National Park Service maintain Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens unimpaired for the benefit and enjoyment of all.

The mission of the National Parks Conservation Association is to protect and enhance America's National Park System for current and future generations. Work our organization has done effectively and with great pride since our establishment in 1919. Our support of volunteer and community service activities at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens is one more expression of our commitment to help all national park units, regardless of their size, fulfill their vitally important role as the custodians of our natural and cultural heritage.

If you'd like to learn more about volunteer opportunities at the Aquatic Gardens please contact Alan at aspears@npca.org.

Alan Spears works for NPCA as the Associate Director for Diversity.



NPCA at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens.
Photos courtesy of Alan Spears.

Fort Washington Park: Then and Now

While in continuous use for almost 200 years, Fort Washington has changed from a mighty military fortification to an army training center (first for men and then for women) and finally a National Park that accommodates more than 260,000 visitors annually. Fort Washington extends far beyond the old fortification walls. Over the years, thousands of soldiers and dozens of buildings served to make this a thriving military operation. Most of those buildings are gone now, but the old fort remains.

Brick and stone military fortifications were mostly obsolete by the time of the Civil War. The advent of military aviation, with its ability to bomb targets from the air, made such forts easy targets. Most coastal fortifications are long gone. But a few remain for educational and recreational purposes such is the case for Fort Washington.

The very first coastal fortification on the site of Fort Washington, called Fort Warburton, was chosen by President George Washington in 1794. From this point the fort guarded the Potomac River channels. On August 27, 1814, five heavily armed British war ships appeared down stream threatening the American defenses. Captain Samuel Dyson, commander of a small garrison of 60 men, ordered the fort destroyed rather than risk defeat at the hands of the British.

A new fortification, named for President George Washington, was constructed between 1814 and 1824 with extensive improvements and remodeling in 1848. The grounds and structures of this fort played an active role in military history up through and including World War II as a training facility for new officers and as the defender of the Nation's Capital.

This massive masonry, brick and stone structure with its forty to sixty foot high walls and three acre parade grounds, once mounted 40 cannons on the bastion and demi-bastion walls and in the casemates. From the late 1890s through 1922, eight concrete gun batteries were constructed as a part of the Endicott Period reinforcements to coastal defenses throughout the nation. During World War I and II, mines were placed in the Potomac River near the fort to defend against submarines and surface vessels. They were exploded after the wars by the military to make the river passable again.

Fort Washington is now a National Park offering the visitor a wide array of cultural, natural and recreational activities. The park includes permanent exhibits, living history programs, shoreline environmental education, nature trail hikes, biking, picnicking, and fishing along the shoreline and a variety of special events. New visitors to Fort Washington Park will be pleased to find this 341-acre oasis. Here is a place that combines a breathtaking landscape and a rich history.

Fort Washington Park.
NPS Photos, Bill Clark





STAY PARK SMART EXPERIENCE AMERICA'S NATIONAL PARKS AT PARTICIPATING EASTERN NATIONAL BOOKSTORES

Eastern National is a partner with five park sites within National Capital Parks-East. Eastern National strives to help connect people to parks through the sale of quality educational products and services.

Eastern National operates educational retail outlets in over 150 national parks and other public trusts. A wide variety of theme-related, site-specific publications and merchandise can be purchased in Eastern National bookstores. Park supporters also have the ability to place orders online at www.eParks.com or by calling (877) NAT-PARK.

Books

Cobblestone: Mary McLeod Bethune - She was an educator, organizer, fundraiser, and political activist. She worked tirelessly for equality for African-Americans both in education and political representation.

Appropriate for children in grades 3-5.

eParks.com keyword: 2-27124. \$4.50

My Bondage and My Freedom by Frederick Douglass - He wrote three autobiographies, of which, this one is the most graphic. Throughout the book, Douglass provides a keen analysis of the effect of slavery on children and their parents. This is the unabridged and unaltered 1855 version. \$9.95

Audio/Video

Civil War Journal: The 54th Massachusetts -

This 1993 video details the history of the Massachusetts 54th Regiment. The African-American regiment served with valor and distinction in the Civil War. \$19.95

Frederick Douglass: An American Life - This documentary film produced by the National Park Service explores the life and times of Frederick Douglass, a fugitive slave who becomes an eloquent orator and spokesman against slavery. \$19.95

Collectibles

America's National Parks Deluxe Scrapbook Kit - This is the first scrapbook kit specifically designed for visitors to the national parks.

The kit uses well-known national park icons like Mount Rushmore, the Liberty Bell and a giant Sequoia to represent the wide-range of natural, cultural and historic themes found in our national parks. \$9.95

America's National Parks Memory Card Game - This 60 piece game features beautiful photographs of the National Parks. It is both fun and educational, with a detailed informational booklet describing the featured parks. \$10.95



Oxon Cove Park Visitor Barn.
NPS Photo, Robert Epstein.

PARK SAFETY TIPS

VALUABLES

Thefts from cars and of personal property left unattended at parks are a major problem. Visitors and rented cars particularly are targets for thieves. Do not take unnecessary valuables with you on your outing, and never leave any valuables unattended in the park or in the car, even in the locked trunk.

BUCKLE UP! SEAT BELTS ARE REQUIRED BY LAW.

Slow down at dawn and dusk. Watch carefully at all times for pedestrians, other motorists, and animals on roadways.



ON THE ROAD

- Pedestrians have the right of way.
- Follow park speed limits.
- Be aware that traffic in parks can be very heavy so be patient.
- Always yield to emergency vehicles.
- Always keep an eye out for bicyclists, especially when turning, merging, changing lanes, or entering intersections.

FORTIFICATIONS

Climbing any part of fortifications or on the batteries around them is unsafe. Many historic surfaces are uneven and some areas are slippery and damp especially in rain or snow. Please stay off parapets, and watch your children.

ALWAYS PUT OUT CAMPFIRES!

They are dangerous when left unattended and can cause forest fires. Always put campfires out completely with water before leaving the area.



DON'T LITTER

Use the trash cans located throughout the park.

HIKING PRECAUTIONS

- Hiking off trails is unsafe, damages vegetation, causes erosion, and creates unsightly paths.
- Choose hiking trails suitable to your physical condition.
- If you plan to hike solo, give your intended route and length of trip, to a park ranger or friend.
- Wear the proper clothing. Hiking boots should be sturdy, with good traction and ankle support, and should be well broken in ahead of time.
- Bring along bottled water.



FALL SAFETY TIPS

DEER SEASON

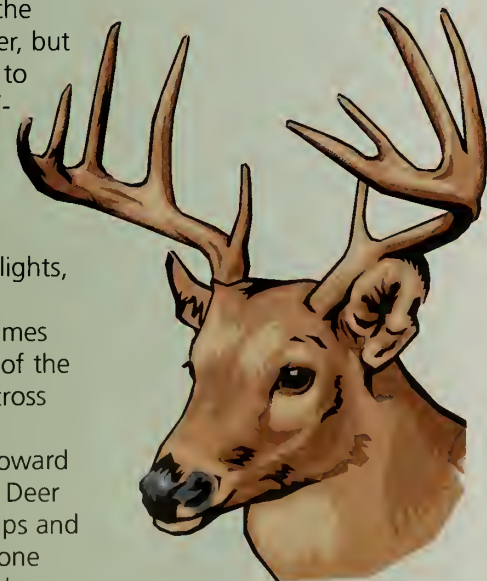
Deer season begins in the month of November, the Monday after Thanksgiving Day, and drivers should be extremely alert for deer. November is peak mating season for deer and a time when a large number of auto-deer collisions occur.

- Stay alert, awake and always wear your seatbelt and drive at a safe, sensible speed for conditions.
- Deliberately watch for deer, particularly when driving during peak collision times. Highest-risk periods are from sunset to midnight and the hours shortly before and after sunrise.
- When driving at night, use high-beam headlights when there is no opposing traffic. The high beams will illuminate the eyes of deer on or near a roadway.
- Watch for the reflection of deer eyes and for deer silhouettes on the shoulder of the road. High-beam headlights will not necessarily frighten a deer, so do not rely on the high beams to deter deer, but rather rely on the lights to better illuminate the animal.
- Deer are often unpredictable, especially when faced with glaring headlights, blowing horns and fast-moving vehicles. Sometimes they stop in the middle of the road when crossing or cross quickly and come back. Sometimes they move toward an approaching vehicle. Deer frequently travel in groups and in single file. If you see one deer on or near the road, expect that others may follow.

- Brake firmly when you notice a deer in or near your path, but stay in your lane. Many serious crashes occur when drivers swerve to avoid a deer and hit another vehicle or lose control of their cars.
- If you do strike a deer, and are uncertain whether or not the deer is dead, then keep your distance, as this is an injured, wild animal with sharp hooves that can inflict injuries. If the deer is blocking the roadway and poses a danger to other motorists, you should report the incident to the U.S. Park Police or a local law enforcement agency.

Hunting is prohibited on national park lands.

Be aware of tiny deer ticks that carry Lyme disease and know which symptoms to watch out for. When in a potentially infested area, apply insect repellent, wear long-sleeved shirts, pants and socks.



Activities At Your Fingertips

	Anacostia Park	Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS	Fort Dupont Park	Fort Washington Park	Frederick Douglass NHS	Greenbelt Park	Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens	Oxon Cove Park/ Oxon Hill Farm	Piscataway Park
Biking									
Birding									
Camping									
Canoeing									
Folklife Demonstrations									
Education Programs									
Hiking									
Music (Live)									
On-site Parking									
Picnicking									
Ranger-led Programs									
Sports Fields (Multi-purpose)									
Visitor Information Center									

Camping at Greenbelt Park



Overnight camping is available year-round at Greenbelt Park, a green oasis in beautiful urban setting, with trails for hiking, biking and a variety of wildlife for the naturalist to enjoy. The park provides a pleasurable retreat from the hectic pace of the Nation's Capital. There are 174 campsites with facilities for campers to enjoy a hot shower. A campground host is there to welcome campers 24 hours a day. During the months of September through the end of May, reservations are not required. Visitors should be aware there are no electrical hook-ups or water hook-ups available. For more information on the Greenbelt Park Campground, call (301) 344-3948.





National Capital Parks - East
1900 Anacostia Drive, SE
Washington D.C. 20020

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Experience Your America

*Fall foliage on the scenic Baltimore-Washington Parkway.
NPS Photo, Robert Epstein.*



The **BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON** and **SUITLAND PARKWAYS** are scenic gateways to the heart of the nation's capital.

As a natural extension of the National Park System in the Greater Washington Metropolitan area, these parkways maintain picturesque landscapes and link important suburban-based federal sites, recreational features, and facilities. With limited lighting and signage, and void of commercial vehicles or other distractions, the parkways feature gentle curves, bridges, retaining walls, and other scenic attractions.

The 29-mile route of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway connects Baltimore, Maryland with Washington, D.C. The part of the parkway from Washington, D.C. to just beyond Fort Meade, Maryland is managed by the National Park Service.

The Suitland Parkway extends 9 1/2 miles from the end of the South Capitol Street Bridge in the District of Columbia to the junction of Route 4 (Pennsylvania Avenue) in Maryland. It is the route often taken by visiting dignitaries who arrive at Andrews Air Force Base.

The staff of Beyond the Capital would like to thank Margie Ortiz and the NCR Office of Communications for their assistance in the publication of this Visitor's Guide.